

Claims 1 – 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Adair et al (U.S. Patent No. 504,877; "Adair"). In addition, claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Adair.

Independent Claim 1, as amended, provides a method for producing a polymer particle composite. Amended claim 1 states (with emphasis added):

"A method for producing a polymer-particle composite comprising a step of forming a polymer-containing layer mainly forming of a polymeric material and a step of bringing a particle suspension containing the particle dispersed in a solvent capable of swelling the polymeric material into contact with the polymer-containing layer, to make the particle to be packed in the polymeric material."

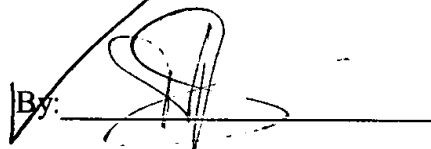
The applicant respectfully submits that the amendment to claim 1 overcomes the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) because Adair does not disclose that "the particle to be packed in the polymeric material" is made by the method recited in the claim. Applicant also submits that the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome because Adair neither shows nor suggests that "the particle to be packed in the polymeric material" is made by the method recited in the claim.

The applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that Claim 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the aforesaid, however, the applicant respectfully submits that all claims provided herein are allowable. Favorable reconsideration is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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**ATTACHMENT TO AMENDMENT OF SERIAL NO. 09/705,027
CONTAINING MARKED-UP CHANGES TO CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) A method for producing a polymer-particle composite comprising a step of forming a polymer-containing layer mainly forming of a polymeric material and a step of bringing a particle suspension containing the particle dispersed in a solvent capable of swelling the polymeric material into contact with the polymer-containing layer, to make the particle to be packed in the polymeric material.